

J. Dan Webster, research associate in the department, made the expedition accompanied by his son, Jackson R. Webster, and Richard B. Parker under a grant from Hanover College in Hanover, Indiana. Webster returned late in July and donated the specimens to the Academy.

ACADEMY HOSTS FUTURE ENGINEERS

IN CONNECTION with the 1957 Western Electronics Convention held last month at the Cow Palace, the Academy, along with the American Trust Company, played a major part in hosting the Future Engineers of America.

The group consisted of about 100 children of delegates at the convention plus other youngsters interested in electronic engineering. On Friday, August 23, these youngsters were given a complete tour of the Academy, including a tour of the Steinhart Aquarium led by Dr. Earl S. Herald and a Planetarium show given by George Bunton. Benjamin Draper and the other members of the television department staff coordinated the tour.

In addition, the American Trust Company and the Academy cooperated to provide continuous showings of scientific, documentary and educational movies at the Future Engineers' Exhibit during the four days of the convention at the Cow Palace.

The American Trust Company also hosted a banquet and tour in Chinatown for the group.

DR. ROSS REACHES BUKAVU

ACADEMY DIRECTOR DR. ROBERT C. MILLER learned via letter last week that the joint Academy-National Geographic Society African expedition headed by Dr. Edward S. Ross, the Academy's curator of entomology, arrived safely in the town of Bukavu in the Belgian Congo.

Dr. Ross reported the expedition has now settled down to work in the research center of Lwira—near Bukavu—where members of the expedition will spend the next few months collecting and photographing insects and other small game.

According to Dr. Ross' letter, Bukavu is halfway across Africa from Matadi, the port city where the expedition landed. The trip across country—about an 1,800-mile trek—was relatively uneventful, Dr. Ross said. The route was practically free of game; however, they saw a few scattered antelope and one herd of about 30 elephants.

Dr. Ross also reported he had spent a delightful afternoon exchanging news and views with Dr. James P. Chapin, the dean of African ornithologists, who works out of Lwira.

NEW MEMBERS

NEW MEMBERS who joined the Academy last month are:

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Vincent Amendola
Mr. Joseph E. Biallas
Mr. Harry J. Bias
Mr. Ted Haas
Mr. Eldred B. Hodges
Mr. David G. Holt
Mr. Edward L. Hunt

Miss R. Jeannine Lyerly

Mr. Richard P. Maley
Mr. Edwin S. Moore
Miss Dorothy D. Ross
Mrs. George D. Stillman
Mrs. Mabel Terry
Mr. Spencer R. Thorpe, Jr.
Mr. Bernard von Frankenberg

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Richard C. Huntoon
Mr. A. M. Mackay
Mr. Leo J. Stapleton

CONTRIBUTING MEMBERSHIP

Mr. David W. Matlock

ACADEMY NEWS LETTER

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BENJAMIN DRAPER, DR. EARL S. HERALD VIEW
IMPRESSIVE ARRAY OF "SCIENCE IN ACTION" AWARDS

(C.A.S. Photo by Moss Photography)

(See Page 2)

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September Announcement

THE REGULAR SEPTEMBER MEETING of the California Academy of Sciences will be held at 8:15 P. M., Wednesday, September 18, in May Treat Morrison Auditorium. This month's lecturer will be Allyn G. Smith, research malacologist and Academy executive assistant, who will lecture on:

"HAWAIIAN HOLIDAY"

Comparatively few visitors to the Hawaiian Islands ever get very far afield from the sands of Waikiki Beach on Oahu Island, thereby foregoing the pleasures of viewing a whole array of some of the world's most breathtaking natural wonders which abound on the lesser-known islands.

Early this summer, Smith, combining his vacation with some shell collecting on the side, spent nearly a month soaking up sun and scenery on the islands of Hawaii, Maui and Kauai. The result is a collection of nearly 300 outstanding color slides of Hawaiian scenic features which often escape the notice of tourists.

From this collection, Smith will select about 100 of his most unusual slides which offer visual proof that Hawaii's beauty is hard to overrate.

Waterfalls, volcanos, birds, brilliant flowers, trees, lush landscapes and rugged seascapes will highlight Smith's pictures.

ANNUAL ACADEMY MEETING

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING, at 8:15 P. M., Wednesday, October 2, will be the annual Academy meeting which all members are urged to attend. Featured will be an Audubon Screen tour lecture, "Forgotten Country," by Bert Harwell. This will be the first of a series of five screen tour lectures which will be presented as Walter B. Scaife Foundation lectures on the beauties of nature. Others in the series will be "Canoe Country" by Murl Deusing on November 20; "Yukon Indian Summer" by Cleveland P. Grant on January 22; "Penguin Summer" by O. S. Pettingill on February 20, and "Monsoon Mosaic" by Telford Work on May 6.

RETURN TO THE AIR

AFTER A SUMMER breathing spell, "Science in Action" will present program number 275 when it returns to the air Monday, September 16, to begin its eighth year. Throughout the past seven years, "Science in Action" has won award after award and honor after honor including the Silver Medal recently awarded the Academy and Station KRON-TV at the California State Fair. The many awards constitute a very impressive array on one of the television department walls (see cover picture).

Executive producer Benjamin Draper said the new series will open with "The World of Insects" with guest scientist Dr. Richard Doult of the University

of California. The series will again be seen on KRON-TV, Mondays, 7 to 7:30 P. M.

Draper also said "Explorers of Tomorrow," the public service series sponsored by KRON-TV and produced by the Academy, will return to the air at 1 P. M., Sunday, September 15. "Explorers of Tomorrow," aimed at interesting youngsters in scientific careers, and "Science in Action" won an Edison Award for KRON-TV last spring. Dr. Earl S. Herald, program host for the two programs, Dr. Robert T. Orr, Dr. Gertrude Cavins and Harry Canuck will lead four student teams in exploring the world of science on the first of the new series.

1957 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORTS

ON AUGUST 26 the Nominating Committee of the California Academy of Sciences filed with the Secretary of the Academy a report of its nominations.

Nominated for five-year terms on the Board of Trustees are: Mr. Barrett G. Hindes, San Francisco Bridge Company, San Francisco; Mr. Sidney Liebes, H. Liebes and Company, San Francisco; and Mr. Dean Witter, Dean Witter and Company, San Francisco.

Nominated for three-year terms on the Council are: Mr. William S. W. Kew, consulting geologist, San Francisco; Dr. Siemon W. Muller, professor of paleontology, Stanford University; and Dr. Lloyd G. Ingles, Fresno State College, Fresno.

According to the Constitution, additional nominations may be made to the Secretary in writing by ten or more Corporate Members on or before September 15. If no such additional nominations are made, at the annual meeting of the Academy the Secretary will cast the unanimous ballot of the Corporate Members for the ticket reported by the Nominating Committee.

NEW COMET IS SNEAKY TYPE

SNEAKING IN FROM behind the sun, the new Comet Cherbak-Mrkos last month and early this month provided professional and amateur astronomers alike with a brilliant, readily-seen phenomenon.

Cherbak-Mrkos, named after airline pilot Peter Cherbak who first reported it and Czechoslovakian astronomer Antonin Mrkos who made the first precise observations of the comet, was behind the sun when it was closest to the earth and was first spotted—on July 31—when it was moving away.

Nevertheless, its nucleus and long tail provided a spectacular sight in the northwestern sky—just below the Big Dipper—each evening around 9 P. M. Reports were coming in last week that Cherbak-Mrkos was still visible to the naked eye but was much less brilliant than when first spotted.

According to Morrison Planetarium astronomers George Bunton and Charles Hagar, this appearance of Cherbak-Mrkos is its first. It will be several months before it can be determined if the comet will reappear.

ACADEMY GETS MEXICAN SPECIMENS

THE ACADEMY'S BIRD and mammal department is richer by 114 bird and 54 mammal specimens from Mexico as the result of a recent expedition in the Mexican states of Zacatecas, Durango and Nayarit, Dr. Robert T. Orr, curator of the department, reports.